



Lake County Board of Commissioners
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lake County received a favorable opinion from the Auditor of State Dave Yost's Office, continuing a record of strong performance in financial management and reporting for the county.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners received an "unmodified opinion" from the State Auditor following its annual audit of government financial conditions for 2012, the highest rating awarded to a governmental entity. The report is a testament to the county's management of operations, practices and fiscal accountability.

Each year, the State Auditor's Office conducts intensive audits of financial statements of Lake County and randomly selects policies, procedures, contracts, journals and other records for review in order to test compliance with Government Auditing Standards and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. The County's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. According to the report, no material weaknesses in the measures in place to supervise its operations were identified.

"Lake County consistently earns high marks for monitoring our finances," said Daniel P. Troy, President of the Board of Commissioners. "This Board takes great pride in receiving such a positive report from the State Auditor. It serves as validation that we continue to comply with the myriad of federal regulations applied to the various funding streams the County accepts."

The audit examines some of the more than \$21 million in federal funds awarded to the County for such programs as Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, Workforce Investment Act, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child Support, Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Commissioner Judy Moran echoed Troy's sentiments. "The Lake County team entrusted to oversee our financial operations performs such a vitally important role in the overall function of the government. This audit is a credit to the integrity and diligence our staff displays to apply proper accounting procedures and oversight."

The audit reviews many of the details of the functions of government office often unseen by the public. "The release of such a positive report validates the methodologies and mechanisms we have implemented in house at the county to ensure total accountability of our financial resources," Commissioner Troy said.

The audit released this year follows a pattern of exemplary reports issued to Lake County by the state. In October 2007, then-State Auditor Mary Taylor personally presented Lake County with the "Making Your Tax Dollars Count" award for 2005 and 2006 audits. Awards are bestowed to entities that complete and submit a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, have no findings or issues in the current audit report and no other financial concerns. Less than 5% of governmental agencies in the state qualify for this distinction and Lake County was included in that select group.

"Lake County can be confident that each dollar is scrutinized and handled with care," Commissioner Robert E. Aufuldish said. "We are proud of the job our staff performs to utilize the funding safely and securely to enable the county to deliver important services to the citizens."

For more information, contact the Lake County Board of Commissioners, at 440-350-2748.